[This transcript was created by LAI staff. It is as true a representation of the original as we could create. When a word was too difficult to decipher or was questionable we put those words in brackets. All text in brackets represents the voice of the transcriber rather than the voice of the letter writer. We have not maintained the spacing that exists in the original letters because that was not compliant with our accessibility standards. We are left justifying most lines.]

[citation information]
Collection title: Corcoran Gallery of Art and Corcoran College of Art + Design, Corcoran Gallery of Art directors' records
Collection number: COR-0002-0-RG
Series 1: MacLeod, Barbarin and McGuire records
Subseries 1: Indexed correspondence
Box 2008-001
Folder 34: Letters 331-340

[Letter #331]
[Front of Envelope]
Walters, W. [T?]
Balt. June 12 /74
Rec'd and Answ June 13 /74
Does not see any objection to permitting Dr. Reuling pictures to be exhibited in the Gallery, thinks he wishes to sell.

Balto 12th June 74
Mr. MacLeod,
[Illegible] I have your letter of [illegible]. I am quite familiar with Dr. Reuling pictures- The [Lordaens?] and [Coques?], and I do not doubt originals and as examples of these artists are better than anything I have seen in this country and beside interesting things, I am sure he is [anxious?] to sell his things and I rather think his principal reason for sending them would be the hope of selling- I would think therefore assure him and [do not?] [illegible] [illegible] old Pictures. I see no objection to accepting [illegible] [illegible] for exhibition- nor any important reason for doing so.
The Dr. Reuling to leave here Monday [evening?]
Respectfully,
W. [T?] Walters

[Letter #332]
[Front of Envelope]
Maquay Hooker & Co:
Leghorn May 25/74
June 15/74

17 Packages of plaster casts shipped per Italian Vessel Suez. To sail for Baltimore promptly.
[Written on Maquay Hooker and Co. Stationary; Shipping Notice]
May 25 74
A Hyde Esq.
Secretary Corcoran Gallery of Art Washington

Package the property of the Corcoran Gallery of Art, shipped per the Italian Vessel "Suez" [illegible] to sail weather permitting for Baltimore promptly. Our agent [Illegible] [Brothers?] [per?] [New York?] are instructed to give you notice when the Suez arrives. Insurance [illegible] [illegible].

[Letter # 333]
[Front of envelope]
Reuling, G. Dr.
Balt June 16/74
June 16/74
Shall send his paintings to the gallery tomorrow (June 17) under care of a Balt Artist.
[Witten on United States Postal Card]
To: [Illegible] MacLeod Esq
Corcoran Gallery of Art Washington DC
My Dear Sir:
Your letter of acceptance received and its conditions are accepted. Shall send paintings by Wednesday under the are of one of our Balto Artists.
With many thanks
Yours very Respectfully
G. Reuling

[Letter #334]
[Front of envelope]
Reuling, George Dr.
June 17, 1874
June 17, 1874
His pictures will not be in Washington before Friday or Saturday.
[Written on a United States Postal Card]
To: Mr. [illegible] MacLeod
Curator-Corcoran Gallery
Washington D.C.
Dear Sir
Owing to some of the boxes having been destroyed [illegible] consequently new ones to [illegible]. My paintings will not be in Washington before Friday or Saturday, will let you know.
Reuling

[Letter #335]
[Front of Envelope]
Thayer, Sanford
Syracuse June 17, 1874
Recd & Ansd Jun 18/74
Desires to have his pictures returned if the Committee will not purchase
Asks $1,500 for the two.
[Letter]
Syracuse, June 17, 1874
Mr. MacLeod Esq.
Dear sir:
Your favor of 12 inst. enclosing copy of regulations [illegible] [illegible] all eight, and for which I feel duly and gratefully obligated. [On?] [illegible] item I can see nothing to prevent your Art Comm. returning to me my pictures before the expiration of its [prescribed?] six months, and I wish they would do so unless they purchase, and I supposed that they had given up all thoughts of doing so; but I infer from you [last?] that they still feel inclined to buy and are waiting for Mr. [Illegible] pose an offer that shall [illegible] their ideas of [illegible]. If that be so, I can only [illegible] [myself?] [illegible], which, [illegible] declined [in asking?] [Mr.?] an offer before will only prove [illegible] this time I presume. However I will now make an explicit offer and should it not meet their approval, let them state what they will do.

The more I think of it, the more do I feel inclined to dispose of the two pictures together, and it is not so much the price that I care for now as it is a peculiar sentiment that [persuades?] me, and I am happy to be able to confess that I do not feel so objected as formally, for certain reasons,- I tell you I feel more and more a desire to have the two pictures permanently located as neighbors to each other, I will say that on those conditions I wil give them both up for the moderate sum of $1,500. And if my proposal is rejected by the Comm. and the refuse to state what amount they will give for the one by Elliott, which seems to be the only one they really do care for, I beg they will return the pictures as soon as they consistently can and thus end this long and [illegible] matter, it seems that it must be so to you, I know it is so to me. I am Sir, as every yours the same.
Sanford Thayer
P.S.

Right here: [Since?] the inaction of your Comm., having lately brought a [illegible] by Stuart comes to my mind;-I will [illegible] to say [en passant?]that I doubt his having left a better example as seen as good; as [illegible] as this one how in question by Elliott and to have as well as its [famous?] artist has gone to “The Undiscovered Country, from whose bourn no traveller returns”.

[Letter #336]
[Front of envelope]
Ward, E.J.

June 17. 1874,
June 17/74
Is printing several sets from the negatives. Wishes to have the titles printed on the cards.
[Letter]
Mr. McLeod,
[Dear?] Sir,
I am printing several complete sets of the negatives made for you, shall I have them mounted on plain cards, or wait until cards are printed. If you want them printed, send titles by bearer, and the probable number you will want, and I will have it done at once. I can give you any number, from the negatives already made, this week.
Your very truly,
E.J. Ward
June 17

[Letter #337]
[Front of Letter]
Ward, E.J.

May 23, 1874
Agreement to make and furnish photographs for the Corcoran Gallery of Art with price.
[Letter]
[Note: Written on Corcoran Gallery of Art Stationary]
Washington D.C. May 23rd, 1874
I hereby agree to make, and and furnish to the “Corcoran Gallery of Art” photographic pictures of the various rooms and objects of Art in the Building, at the following rates, (the negatives to be the property of the Gallery)
Large Negatives @ $5.00 each
Stereoscopic Negatives @ $3.00 each
Pictures complete and mounted.
Large @ [$3.00?] per dozen
Stereoscopic @ $1.50 per dozen
E.J. Ward

[Letter #338]
[Note: There are two letters in this section, plus a catalogue]
[Front of Envelope]
Lucas, G.A.
Paris May 14, 23/74
With regard to additional pieces of Bronzes by Barye. Encloses a Catalogue of the Bronzes.
Has purchased six paintings 22,800 frs. Hopes to send one, “Boy with Fiddle” by [Collett?] by Steamer 29 May, Speaks of the Sevres Exposition.

[Letter]
Dear [Waller?]
[Note: the first 9 lines of the letter have lines drawn through them]. I have seen Barye since his return. He has not been able to ascertain if the Gov. has preserved model of the Bastille [Lion?]. If they have & they allow, it can be reproduced at a [illegible] [illegible] his other things, but if they have not, it will be necessary to [illegible] a [illegible] & this will require a scaffolding at the columns. & if Gov. correct this will make it a more costly affair-He has the model of No. 58- [perdant?] to the Luxemburg one & this he can finnish at any time as well as the large centaur. The Luxemburg one he has on hand. He says he gave a friend the cart of the large sealed [illegible] ([Prospero's gale on the Seine?]) & he have it to a museum in the Province & he does not know if they will loan it or allow a cart to be taken- but he thinks not.

I overlooked the large lion and serpent ([illegible] [illegible]) [illegible] No. 40 & at present can say nothing about it. I enclose his catalogue with all the things already sent marked out & the others which can be taken to make [illegible] complete, marked with a note of [interrogation?]? I have included some of the "coups" & bases for bronzes and candelabras which I think ought to be taken as showing his talent in this line. [But?] what should be done at present is to endeavor to get all the large things possible which would require his personal attentions. He is growing old & may be carried off at any moment- [for?] the small things, if you are [illegible] [rich?] enough to take all, a certain [queenly?] sum might be spent. In the last cases I sent [Avery?] I put 2 of his & 2 of [Illegible] catalogues, with requests to send you. [Illegible] owns the Detaille in the [salon?] & his asking price is 40,000 fr. It is not considered, generally, as fine as his last year's picture. I have not seen him since your letter. [Avery?] paid him last year 4000 fr. for an aquarelle a [battle?] or cavalry charge and gave him an order for a simple figure (soldier portrait of himself) 7 inches for 3000 fr. I suppose a picture of 3, 4, or 5 fig. Would be from 9 to 1500 Fr.- As far as I can learn, that has not been much sold in Salon. A week after opening I met [Illegible] & he told me he had not bought a single picture there. [For?] the good things not sold before opening, [stiff?] prices were asked but evidently there has been a cooling off- Amateurs and dealers are scarce. Have asked the prices of a good many pictures & have as yet bought but 3. One an interior (Sunday in Auvergne) by Bail for 1500 fr. - The second, say over 2 meters square, representing a family of satyrs. 3 [illegible] by [Prow?] I brought on second day for 500 fr.- A [illegible] [thing?] & just suited for a gallery. I consider it the best picture of the kind in the salon & am perfectly satisfied with the purchase. The [third?] [illegible] picture, by Leroux, ([illegible] has copy of his picture in Luxemburg) for which I paid [10,000 fr.?] is a [long?] canvas, say 8 feet & represents The Vestal Tuccia- "Powerful Divinity, if I have always approached your altar with pure hands, allow me to fill this sieve with the water of the Tiber & carry it into your temple.". The [draped?] Vestal standing on the Tiber holds above her head the sieve. People looking on at the miracle. This figure is perfect & the picture very fine. If I can get photographs of any I will enclose them. "Dead [illegible]" Levy is in hand with a [illegible] affair which will enhance the value of his "Dead [illigible]", which Durand-[Ruel?] has got back unsold from London. I consider this a purchase to make, for it is really a chef

d'oeuvre & I think you ought now to consider it seriously. D-R will no doubt now let it go. He paid for it 10,000 fr. Think about & by sending your limit, so as I can say I can't go over it, it may be now had. [Plasson?] has in Salon a picture over 2 ft. high. The girl pulling over crucifix the [palm?]. Differs from yours in the pose], right hand on chair & [illegible] [up the?] [illegible] with the left. Yours I believe is the [reverse?]. By a [mistake?] in catalogue, it is put down in belonging to an amatuer, & no one has asked for it & he fears it may lay on his hands, & if so he said the other day he would sell it to me cheap at end of Salon- would this do for the Corcoran. It is very good. [Note: This next part is the final paragraph of the letter and has three large "X's" through it.].

I have been unable to find an old [illegible] & fear I will have to fall back on a [illegible] one- did you ever look at your Louis XVI [illegible] to see if you would [illegible] back to me.

Truly your Friend,
G.A. Lucas
[Note: this last part is scribbled on the bottom corner and is very disjointed.].
[If?] [illegible] are [true?] the [illegible] are all frozen- heavy [frost?] [illegible] since the [illegible] of the month- at my place everything seems to be frozen even the walnut trees, which are black instead of green. [Note: to the left hand side of this last line, the phrase " had business" is written but nothing else is after it.]

[Letter # 338 Letter #2]
Paris May 23rd, 1874
Dear [Wallers?]
I enclose photographs of the [Prior?] up to today I have bought-
[Prior?] b500
[Lourteneau?]- small picture, monk fishing 1000
Leroux- The Vestal 10,000
St. Pierre- An [Adalinque?] ([demi nude?]) 3000
Bail- Sunday in Auvergne 1500
Collette- Boy with Fiddle (part [illegible] salon) 800
[Note: Under the prices, a final total is shown of 22,800 fr.]

I offered Collette for the Fiddler 800 fr. which he accepted. A [illegible] [for?] it will cost say 100 fr. [Note" The next line has been marked out and is unreadable].
Will [illegible] & get it off today to leave in steamer of the [29th?] May- The [Seine?] [illegible] is decreed but no date yet fixed- Out there they told me it would be about 1st August. My man tells me there are some of Salon's things, which have been kept hid, much finer than anything you or Avery bought. Says they won't be marked any higher in [proportion?]- [Illegible] is to be free, in the Palais d'Industrie & to include the [Illegible] & [Illegible] [Illegible] Home [seen?] Detaille since my last. He is making 2 important aquarelles for [illegible] [say?] about 2ft long with a great many figures (military) say 7 to 10 important ones- says the price of a picture of same importance would be 15 or 20,000 fr.- When I wrote about Levy at Durand-Ruels, I forgot to say he has also on hand the [illegible] Raft picture, which would also be a fine thing for the Corcoran.

Truly your Friend,
G.A. Lucas
[Note: There is a final paragraph after the letter is signed, but it has been marked out.]

[Letter #339]
[Front of Envelope]
G.A. Lucas
Casts from Paris, list of-
[Letter]
Paris 30 Juin (June) 1873
[Note: This letter is written in French]

[Letter # 340]
[Front of Envelope]
Thayer, Sanford,
Syracuse June 20/74,
June 24
Wishes his pictures returned immediately
Rec'd June 24, 74
[Letter]
Syracuse, June, 20. 1870 [Note: the year is actually 1874]
William McLeod Esq.
Dear Sir:
[Illegible] of 18 inst. [illegible] a [illegible] this morning, and in reply will say that your fulfillment of your promise to 'immediately return my pictures" will add another [item?] to the obligations I am already under to you.
[Really?]! I did not think your Art Comm. would insult the memory of Elliot however ready they might be to treat me contemptuously. Good bye, I shall always remember your kindness, and pray that you may be spared that sickening feeling which comes from having forced upon you the realizing [illegible] of the [littleness?] of humanity.
Gratefully Yours, [illegible]
Sanford Thayer